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The Light of the Gods

Grace Granger

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THE LIGHT OF THE GODS

"WITH GOLD AND IVORY GLEAMING BRIGHT."

THE LIGHT OF THE GODS

BY

GRACE GRANGER

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No. 1.

"GAZE AWE-STRUCK ON THY WONDROUS FACE."

Facing page 5.

THE PARTHENON

THE sun sinks slowly in the west,
The purple shadows creep apace,
And we too, ere we go to rest,
Gaze awe-struck on thy wondrous face.

We pause, for this is holy ground,
The spot where gods once dwelt with men.
Thou wert the home of her who crown'd
This whole hill like a diadem.

With gold and ivory gleaming bright,
She dwelt within thy inmost shrine.
She had no need of day nor night,
For from her brow came light divine.

That light still gilds these shattered walls
As passing centuries onward roll.
Adown the ages still she calls
And answers to our inmost soul.

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"THAT LIGHT STILL GILDS THESE SHATTERED WALLS."

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"A HIGHER LIGHT HAS COME TO MAN."

A Higher Light has come to man,
A Light of which she showed
the dawn.
Rejoicing in that Light we can
Still praise and bless her glor-
ious morn.

SUNIUM

A ROCKY height, a sky of blue,
A deep, deep sea of azure hue;
A stillness that our senses steep,
And Sunium lies at noon asleep.

And we from distant lands astray
In yonder temple watch and pray,
As in the past men did before,
When this lone hill strange altars bore.

Photograph taken by Dr. A. S. Cooley.

"A ROCKY HEIGHT, A SKY OF BLUE."

Photograph taken by Dr. A. S. Cooley.

"SUNIUM LIES AT NOON ASLEEP."

We see them climb the winding
steep,
We hear their voices low and
deep,
The incense burns, the priests
arise
And offer up the sacrifice.

Ah! not in vain the prayers they
said,
Though Sunium's fires be cold
and dead.
Ah! not in vain the hymns they
sang,
That soft through Sunium's
temple rang.

So as the hours go lingering by,
And white sails hang twixt sea and sky,
From vanished past, from ashes grey
Comes clearer light and hope to-day.

"FROM VANISHED PAST, FROM ASHES GREY."

"OH! HILL OF MARS, DIVINELY FAIR."

Facing page 11.

MARS HILL

OH! Hill of Mars, divinely fair,
Thy noble height shines soft to-day;
The gentle winds of Attic air
About thy lofty summits play.

This hill so bare once teemed with life,
Thy councils e'en the gods did grace;
And from the world of toil and strife
Men came to gaze upon thy face.

And gazing felt their souls renewed
As thy stern mandates evil chid,
And 'neath thy brow crushed and subdued
The awful shades of conscience hid.

Here once with murderous brow o'ercast,
And hands with mothers' blood imbrued,
Came one who here found peace at last
And the wild powers of sin subdued.

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"THE AWFUL SHADES OF CONSCIENCE HID."

Facing page 12.

"HERE FIRST FROM GODS TO MAN WAS GIVEN."

Facing page 13.

Here first from gods to man was given
The greatest gift gods can bestow—
The grace that lifts the soul to heaven
While tears of penitence o'erflow.

And later on came one who here
More clearly yet that grace had showed;
Since blind with light, and dumb with fear,
He met his Master in the road.

Ah! greater than the poet's tale
His halting speech our memories fill—
From mystic shrine to rend the veil
Stood the Great Saint upon Mars Hill.

Oh blessed hill his feet hath trod
The sacred message to proclaim,
He who declared the "Unknown God"
Adds lustre to thy deathless fame.

"FROM MYSTIC SHRINE TO REND THE VEIL."

"THE GRIM MOUNTAIN'S ROCKY CROWN."

Facing page 15.

THE FOUNTAIN OF PEIRENE

THE flying horse sank slowly down
To where the waters from the side
Of the grim mountain's rocky crown
To each and all their need supplied.

Bursting and rushing from the ground
Flowed the cool stream his thirst to stay.
He paused, and gazing shy around
Drank, rose, and soared from sight away.

Soon in the hot and dusty town
That water to a fountain fared,
And thirsting strangers stooping down
By morn, by noon, its solace shared.

So we too, passing by in haste
And wand'ring down the ruined way;
The old, old fountain, sore defaced,
Yet showed that once its cooling spray
To each and all had solace given,
As in the olden time betide
The winged horse came down from Heaven.

"THAT WATER TO A FOUNTAIN FARED."

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